

ANNEX A: Summary of Remittance-Related Activities of Conference Participants

Participant	Activities
Center for Global Development, Migration and Development Initiative	<p>The MDI:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explores the magnitude, characteristics and impact on sending countries of the migration of skilled and unskilled workers from developing countries to major receiving countries such as the United States., Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, East Asia, and the Persian Gulf; 2. Focuses on the effects of migration policies on sending countries with nuanced attention to specific labor segments.
Development Alternatives Inc.	<p>DAI's work focuses on strengthening the linkages between remittances and development and improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of remittance transfers. Specific activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USAID AMAP Knowledge Generation, Money Transfers and Remittances sub-component: expanding understanding of remittance and money transfer corridors, providing support to USAID missions to develop remittance-related programming, and producing a quarterly newsletter on remittance trends and issues; 2. USAID AMAP Knowledge Generation Technology sub-component: working with Microsoft to coordinate the roll-out of a software system to facilitate overseas communications and transfers in Mexico; 3. DFID-funded Remittance and Payments Partnership (RPP) in Bangladesh: supporting implementation of a three component project that aims to: 1) improve the enabling environment for remittances through the development of a National Payments Strategy and Council, Center for Payments Expertise, and support for legal and regulatory reform, in concert with private and public stakeholders; 2) expand the range of remittance products through the operation of a challenge fund that will provide grants for innovation and infrastructure investment; 3) improve the flow of information to and from migrants, donors, financial institutions, etc. 4. USAID Global Development Alliance: brainstorming with the GDA and Manuel Orozco to initiate new programs and partnerships.
George Washington University, Diaspora Program	<p>The Diaspora Program's research projects include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remittances to War-Torn Societies, which evaluates the role of remittances in post-conflict societies and will explore the social and political impact of remittances on homelands; 2. Transnational Washington: Leveraging Diasporic Entrepreneurship in a Global City, which examines the networks and institutions that sustain transnational entrepreneurship at the

	<p>metropolitan scale;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Mobilizing Diaspora Homeland Investment capital, which seeks to identify effective mobilization strategies for homeland governments, diaspora organizations, multilateral organizations, and investment companies that are targeting diaspora members for homeland investment; 4. The Role of Diasporas vis-à-vis the International Development Industry, which explores how diasporas might more effectively interface with the efforts of the international development industry; <p>In addition, the program has several activities planned under the Inter-Diaspora Dialogue Initiative, which seeks to improve the capacity of diaspora organizations to contribute to the development of their countries of origin by enabling them to share lessons learned, building vital sectoral networks across diaspora groups, and encouraging constructive engagement between diaspora organizations and homeland and international partners. Planned activities include an inter-diaspora workshop series.</p>
Georgetown University, Institute for the Study of International Migration	<p>ISIM takes a particular interest in the role of remittances in conflict and crisis countries. Research and other activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The research paper, Remittances in Conflict and Crises: How Remittances Sustain Livelihoods in War, Crises, and Transitions to Peace, which explores how migrant diasporas and their networks bring remittance funds, communications technologies and other forms of support to individuals, families and communities in politically and economically troubled environments. The paper also looked at the role of diasporas in funding conflicts and building peace; 2. Serving as the Secretariat for the Research Consortium on Remittances in Conflict and Crisis, an international consortium of organizations and researchers active in this area; 3. A paper on the role of remittances in recovery from natural disasters, Remittances in crises: A Haiti case study; 4. Research on South-South transfers; 5. Research on transnationalism and diasporas; 6. Research on gender and remittances.
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta	<p>The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta is conducting research on remittances, Dutch Disease, and Monetary Policy.</p>
FOCAL, the Canadian Foundation for the Americas	<p>FOCAL is focused on analyzing the various intersections between diaspora communities, remittances and Canadian public policy – from regulatory constraints to data collection – and is working towards greater levels of cooperation between diaspora groups and the Government of Canada. Specific Activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducting a survey of remittance recipients in Jamaica with the IADB; 2. The Diasporas and Private Sector Development project, which seeks to understand the

	<p>role of diaspora communities in economic growth and job creation in their countries of origin;</p> <p>3. Helping to foster better working relationships between diaspora groups and the Canadian government through conferences.</p>
Inter-American Development Bank	In collaboration with the World Bank and ECLAC, the IADB is working to develop and implement a harmonized survey module that would be attached to household surveys throughout LAC in order to better characterize remittances and migration.
Inter-American Foundation	Since 1999, the IAF has funded about 20 grassroots projects addressing the direct and indirect connections between migration, remittances and development. The IAF has sponsored several workshops and meetings enabling grantees to share experiences and reflect upon initial lessons learned. In addition, the IAF sponsored a series of roundtable dialogues in six U.S. cities to facilitate interaction among migrant leaders, academics, representatives of local governments and others interested in the links between migration and grassroots development.
International Monetary Fund	IMF research includes: work on the effects of remittances on macroeconomic stability, poverty reduction, and income inequality, and the potential of remittances to cause Dutch Disease.
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	The Foundation's Initiative on Global Migration and Human Mobility began grantmaking under its initial phase in January 2006 with the aim of advancing three main objectives: 1) to develop improved understandings of global migration through support of policy-relevant empirical research and improved sources of data on migrant flows; 2) to encourage better governance of migration at global, regional, and national levels; and 3) to stimulate new thinking on broader issues of global human mobility. Within the area of development, the Foundation focuses on worker remittances, labor mobility and brain drain, and diaspora networks. The Foundation has sponsored a number of broad-based, conceptual studies including an evaluation of the field of migration and development, assessing the theoretical approaches, substantive findings, and policy applications of current research, and a review of recent literature on migration and development.
OPIC	OPIC is exploring ways to leverage remittance flows to deepen financial markets, increasing the liquidity available for housing and SME development. OPIC seeks to encourage local financial institutions, including MFIs, to offer households – including remittance recipients – a broad range of financial services that can translate these flows into savings and investment, including in small businesses in recipient communities. Through collaboration with and support for organizations such as BlueOrchard, a Geneva-based NGO, and MFIC, a Washington-based provider of remittances and other financial services, OPIC has increased the share of remittance recipients with access to microfinance. And in the area of housing, homebuyers have used remittances to fund the down payments for homes in OPIC-sponsored housing developments.
Suny Cortland, Prof. German A. Zarate-	Prof. Zarate-Hoyos' research agenda includes:

Hoyos	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An examination of the multiplier effect of remittances in the local economy in Peru. The hypothesis will test whether remittances have had a greater impact on aggregate demand than other financial inflows, what sectors and what institutions are benefiting the most, and what policies are most beneficial in maximizing the positive effects; 2. An empirical comparative study of the actual savings and consumption patterns of households that receive remittances with those that do not in Mexico and Peru using national representative household surveys with specific questions on remittances; 3. A study on international labor migration and its interrelationships with international capital movements. This study will focus on a wide range of issues, including the impact of foreign labor input on production and competitiveness in select sectors, and the possible impact of migrant's spending behavior on the regional development of the host regions.
The Transnational and Interinstitutional Project: "International Migration and Local Development in Mexico and El Salvador 2007-2010"	This project seeks to institutionalize the effective participation of migrants and their families in their communities of origin by increasing the organization and training of communities of origin, local authorities, and migrant organizations.
USAID	<p>In the past five years, USAID's interventions in the area of remittances have focused on three main areas: improving access to financial services by the unbanked, partnership with diaspora organizations; and knowledge generation and sharing. Projects include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assistance to Caja Popular Mexicana, the largest credit union in Mexico, to help the institution engage in remittance transfers from the US, facilitating linkages with WOCCU; 2. Support to Accion International to provide technical assistance to 5 affiliates in Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Peru to help these institutions analyze their capacity to handle remittances, develop business plans, develop new products, and establish partnerships with MTCs; 3. Collaboration with a Bolivian MFI to introduce a national transfer system.